

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 COME-00  
TRSE-00 L-03 OIC-02 OMB-01 INT-05 GSA-01 ITC-01 FRB-03  
/057 W

-----071941Z 106237 /43

R 071735Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3696

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LAGO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, ITC

SUBJECT: ITC: THIRD AND SPECIAL SESSIONS

REF: STATE 1392

1. WE ARE APPRECIATIVE FOR RECEIVING REFTEL ON USG POSITION ON ITC MATTERS. SINCE WE DO NOT HAVE MESSAGES FROM LONDON REFERRED TO IN REFTEL (LONDON 0001 AND 0076), OUR OBSERVATIONS IN THIS TELEGRAM MAY BE OFF THE MARK. WE WOULD APPRECIATE, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, RECEIVING ALL LONDON MESSAGES ON THE TIN COUNCIL. ALSO, WE WONDER WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO CONSULT WITH POSTS IN MEMBER COUNTRIES OF ITC FOR POSTS' OPINIONS ON IMPORTANT ITC MATTERS WHICH DEPARTMENT COULD CONSIDER BEFORE USG POSITION IS DECIDED. THUS, WHETHER ACCEPTED OR NOT, DEPARTMENT WOULD HAVE BENEFIT OF FIELD THINKING AND VICEVERSA.

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2. WE ARE STRUCK BY APPARENT INCONSISTENCY IN USG POSITION IN REFTEL. ON THE ONE HAND, THE US EXPECTS BOLIVIA TO RESPECT ARTICLE 41 OF THE AGREEMENT AND ACCEPT THE ITC DECISION ON PRICE RANGES AS BINDING. YET, THE US POSITION IS TO BE RELUCTANT TO HAVE AN ITC SESSION, AND IF ONE IS SCHEDULED, TO DEFER IT UNTIL APRIL 30 AT THE EARLIEST. WE NOTE THAT THE ITA, IN ARTICLE 50, PARAGRAPH (B), STATES THAT,

"IF, WITHIN SIX MONTHS AFTER THE TERMINATION OF THE FOURTH AGREEMENT, THIS AGREEMENT HAS ENTERED INTO FORCE PROVISIONALLY BUT NOT DEFINITELY AS LAID DOWN IN ARTICLE 49, THE EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN SHALL, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, CONVENE A SESSION OR SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL TO CONSIDER THIS POSITION." WE ALSO NOTE THAT IN ARTICLE 11, PARAGRAPH (C) THAT SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL "SHALL BE CONVENED, AT THE REQUEST OF ANY PARTICIPATING COUNTRY." THUS, WE WONDER WHETHER THE US POSITION IS DEFENSIBLE. WHILE WE CLEARLY UNDERSTAND US DESIRE TO RESIST BOLIVIAN ATTEMPTS TO REOPEN THE PRICE QUESTION, WE WONDER WHETHER THE US POSITION ON DELAYING ITC MEETING IS NOT A BENDING OF THE TERMS OF AGREEMENT FOR ITS OWN CONVENIENCE. IT SEEMS OBVIOUS TO US THAT UNLESS CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE, PRICES WILL COME UP AGAIN BUT SHOULD BE DEALT WITH IN STRAIGHTFORWARD FASHION. US TACTICAL MANEUVERS BASED UPON BENDING TERMS OF AGREEMENT SEEM TRANSPARENT AND ANOTHER ANTAGONISTIC MOVE AGAINST BOLIVIA WHICH, APART FROM US ATTITUDES ON ITS CONDUCT AT ITC, IS A FRIENDLY BUT POOR COUNTRY, HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON TIN, WHICH UNFORTUNATELY IT PRODUCES AT HIGH COST.

3. WE DO NOT POST AS AUTHORITIES, EITHER LEGAL OR TECHNICAL, ON THE TIN AGREEMENT, THEREFORE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION OF WHAT APPEARS TO US TO BE DIFFICULT US POSITION TO EXPLAIN OR DEFEND.

4. ON A RELATED ASPECT, WE WILL APPRECIATE IT, IF IT IS POSSIBLE, FOR DEPARTMENT TO LET US KNOW IN ADVANCE OF US CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION TO AUTHORIZE GSA SALE OF STOCKPILE TIN. PARTICULARLY, WE ARE INTERESTED IN KNOWING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHEN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH CONCURS IN A LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL. IN ADDITION, GUIDANCE WILL BE APPRECIATED TO HELP US SOFTEN OPPOSITION AND AVOID MISUNDERSTANDINGS BY EARLY EXPLANATIONS TO KEY BOLIVIANS BEFORE INFORMATION REACHES LOCAL PRESS. GSA STOCKPILE DEVELOPMENTS ARE POTENTIALLY THE MOST SENSITIVE ASPECTS OF US-BOLIVIAN RELATIONS. STEDMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRADE, COMMITTEE MEETINGS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977LAPAZ00179  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 969830dc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 1392  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3646265  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ITC: THIRD AND SPECIAL SESSIONS  
**TAGS:** EMIN, ETRD, ITC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
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